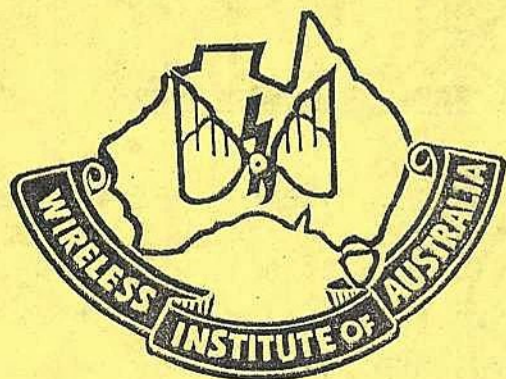


88/08



B·A·R·G NEWS

August 88



© **Monthly Newsletter of the
Ballarat Amateur Radio Group**

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BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO-GROUP INCORPORATED.OFFICERS 1988-1989.EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

			<u>Home</u>	<u>Business</u>
<u>PRESIDENT.</u>	John Hazledine.	VK3 CFH.	39 1971	39 1035
<u>IMM.PAST PRESIDENT.</u>	Ron Watkins.	VK3 XOA	35 6017	32 1447
<u>VICE PRESIDENT</u>	Gordon Cornell.	VK3 PUW	39 2427	39 1135
<u>SECRETARY.</u>	Jim Wright.	VK3 CFB	32 7563	
<u>TREASURER</u>	Harry Hekkema.	VK3 KGL	35 7563	39 1001
<u>ASST.SECRETARY.</u>	George Fowler.	VK3 DOK	32 6863	39 1954
<u>PUBLICITY OFFICER.</u>	Clarry Kitzelmann.	VK3 DMK	38 1044	35 7756
<u>EDUCATION OFFICER.</u>	Ian McDonald.	VK3 AXH	41 3717	31 1317
<u>NET CO ORDINATOR.</u>	Fred Quick.	VK3 KQF	32 3216	
<u>TECHNICAL OFFICER.</u>	Dick Antoziewicz.	VK3 AEX	32 3273	31 1818
<u>MEMBERS REPRESENTATIVE</u>	Neal Davidson.	VK3 KQQ	35 9612	

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OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES.

<u>NEWSLETTER EDITORS.</u>	Bob Terrill.	VK3 BNC	39 5317	39 1001
	Harry Hekkema.	VK3 KGL	35 7563	39 1001
<u>Q.S.L.MANAGER.</u>	Jeff Pigdon.	VK3 PAP	32 7041	31 1211
<u>AWARDS MANAGER.</u>	Maurie Batt.	VK3 XEX	42 2245	
<u>PROPERTY OFFICER.</u>	Dick Antoziewicz.	VK3 AEX	32 3273	31 1818
<u>HAMFEST CONVENER.</u>	Kevin Hughes.	VK3 WN	35 5011	
<u>WICEN COMMITTEE.</u>	Gordon Cornell	VK3 PUW	39 2427	39 1135
	Dick Antoziewicz.	VK3 AEX	32 3273	31 1818
	Geoff Smith.	VK3 ADB	33 2112	
<u>TECHNICAL COMMITTEE.</u>	Ian Robinson.	VK3 BTX	35 8031	
	Maurie Batt.	VK3 XEX	42 2245	
	Phil Seddon.	VK3 AQM	31 5220	
	Murray Felstead	VK3 AAI	41 2234	

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B.A.R.G.meets on the LAST FRIDAY in every month except December at the Ballarat Education Centre,Hopetoun St,Ballarat at 7.30pm.

Committee meetings are held at the Education Centre on the wednesday two weeks prior to the Club meeting at 7.30pm.Executive committee members are expected to attend and any club member with business for discussion is welcome.

All correspondence to-The Secretary,BARG Inc,P.O.Box 216E,Ballarat East.3350.

Applications for Awards to-Maurie Batt,RSD,Rokewood Junction.3351.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT AUGUST 1988.

This is my first contribution to you this year as my vacation took three weeks and then a very busy first week back at work kept me out of social activities. I had a Safari Adventure rather than a holiday and covered over 8000 kilometres mainly on outback roads north of Alice to the Gulf and back through the inner parts of Queensland and New South Wales. If anybody complains that I mention holidays I will threaten them with 3 hours of color slides, so there!

My thanks to Gordon Puw for running the meeting and organizing a program. I believe that the outcome of our discussion on the group call sign is correct. We now have to work together for our hamvention and the club meetings and magazine will keep you in touch, I hope.

I have the State Co-ordinator's Annual Report from WICEN (Wireless Institute Civil Emergency Network). He points out that it has been a good year of development and growth and not counting planning or travelling time more than 3000 man days have been spent in the field by WICEN operators in this twelve months. It has been activated twice. As you can see this is not just a game for amateurs and we have a large responsibility in the total organisation with essential services. A Portable Repeater for the Mildura area is soon to function and that means that WICEN will have a total of nine Portable Repeaters operational by christmas whereas we only have four now. This makes me remember to give credit to our team which put the Repeater on Smeaton Hill which is working so well. You might remember that we thought we should supply a Portable Repeater for the blank areas which we cover but instead found that that Static one would be money better spent. This of course is covering an area and is used for emergency services as well as our hobby and therefore justifies its position and cost. It is even more useful now of course that novices have this facility and we hope that it will broaden our hobby and our friendships around the area.

I hear D. X. propagation is coming up a bit to date. I might try that out after a few years of listening to locals and only occasionally getting further than J A land. However I get more out of it than just long distance calls as you've gathered my main interest is around Australia and I've enjoyed talking to the people and communicating with them in anticipation of trips that I've had. I had background knowledge of areas and places to see and safety precautions to take from other amateurs that do outback travel and camping as I do so remember this hobby can serve you in many ways and hope you get this variation as I do out of the shack and it's potential.

Catch you all at the meeting. if you have any ideas about programs please let us know and if you have any changes of format that might help, please don't hesitate to mention it. I think as people like to get away not too late perhaps suppers are not the way to go but perhaps for special occasions we could get the pie heater out again.

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MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING HELD 29th JULY.1988.

MEETING OPENED at 7.45pm by Vice President Gordon who welcomed all members present.

APOLOGIES VK3 MBO, CUH, KIT, XEX, CFH, BTX, CJB, AEX.

MINUTES of previous meeting as circulated were confirmed. DOK/CAZ

CORRESPONDENCE IN WIA acknowledging receipt of material for AR.

CORRESPONDENCE OUT Mars Confectionary re visit to factory.
Western Zone re portable repeater.

TREASURERS REPORT General a/c \$161.33. VS&L a/c \$2160.33.
Accounts for \$40.00 passed for payment. DOK/CAZ

QSL MANAGER Jeff PAP received 95 cards for the month.

CLUB NET Co-ordinator Fred KQF is still appealing for more support.

EDUCATION Ian AXH reported that students are going well.

HAMVENTION. Kevin WN gave a report which included the following:-
Admission including meal \$8.00. without meal \$4.00.
There will be 4 competition events in the afternoon.
It is proposed to have an Auction of used gear.
After a discussion it was decided that the Saturday evening
get together would be held at the Bluebell Hotel with Counter tea.

GENERAL BUSINESS. Change of Club Callsign from VK3 BML to VK3 ZL.
After a very full discussion on the hassles that this
would involve which included reprinting stationery, QSL
cards, awards etc. it was moved by Stan SE seconded by
Neal KQQ that the present callsign be retained. Carried.

Moved George DOK seconded Barbara PUJ that Clarrie DMK
be appointed Publicity Officer. Carried.

Barry PDG sent his best wishes to all members.

MEETING CLOSED 8.35pm.

Mr. ERIC DOHERTY then entertained the members with a talk on the SES which
was most informative and interesting.

73s Jim CFB.

Next BARG meeting is on 26th August.

Next Committee meeting 14th September.

An Easy To Build General Purpose Cabinet.

I have just finished a power supply housed in a cabinet similar to the design shown. The advantage of this design is the simplicity of construction. There are only four bends in the main body. I have not included any measurements as you can build to any size you require.

The main frame of the cabinet is constructed first, using reasonably heavy aluminium. I found I could mount all the bits on this and worry about the rest later. Another good point is the access, as you add the sides last. Make the foldover 15mm. as this won't vary for a variety of sizes.

The sides are 20mm thick hardwood, sanded and stained or polished. Make these longer than the frame. I left mine long enough so I can stand the finished box on it's front so terminals, meters etc. are protected.

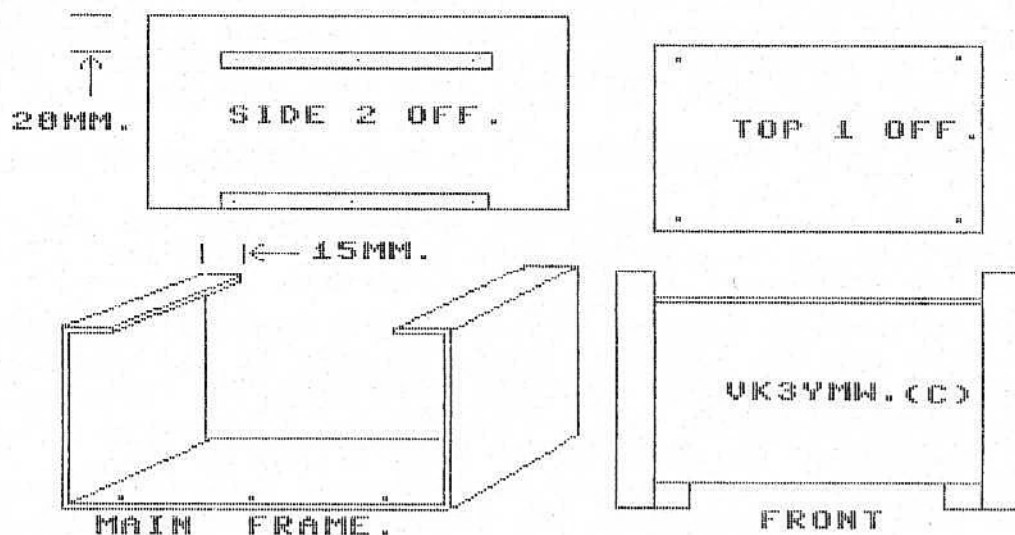
The strips shown are 20mm. square h/wood cut to the inside measurement of the main frame. Allow about 20mm. of each side to protude above the lid. One strip is mounted flush with the bottom of the side, the frame sits on this, then fit the top strip under the foldovers and mark the screw holes making sure your overlap on the front and back of the sides are equal.

I sprayed my cabinet with Automotive Touch up spray (dark hammer tone grey), and with the cedar finished sides, it looks very effective. The top is cut from flat aluminium with a self tapper in each corner which holds the sides in at the top. I hope all this is clear, it's easier to build than describe!

If you have any probs. give me a call on 146.750

Cheers,

VK3YMW. Max.



NOVICES ON 2 METERS

A small minority of full call amateurs are obsessed by novices being given part of the 2 mtr band, or their lack of knowledge of what happens in other countries.

I applied to the following countries:OE, F, DL, HBO, HB, ON, FA, and with the help of Bill Greiner, translated cost details of the reciprocal licences. Time taken was approx 6 weeks to receive licences and call signs.

With novice type licences all bands are allowed with reduced power, not so in the UK. I could not get one in Japan then but now it's OK. I did not take HF gear with me, only a 290R 2 mtr rig. I made HF contact back to VK with hams and their rigs over there. I made about 220 contacts from hotels and motels as portable, then when we took delivery of a new car, used a magnetic base and cig lighter which came in handy during our 6000 miles around Europe with my daughters. We never had any hassles carrying the rig at any of the border checks or airports. The 290R did get us out of trouble. One Saturday at 2pm we arrived in Worms, (Germany), on Rhine River, while the Festival of Fish was on, (what it means we never found out) but it was bigger than Moomba - floats, people everywhere. We finished up slap bang in the middle of it, could not move any direction and was holding things up. While wondering what to do, two policemen came accross to us (they were nice at the start but as our german was nil, they soon changed.) I think they wanted to know why we were there, a good question, we wondered to. Things seemed to be getting out of hand so I called on 2 mtrs hoping to hear someone who could speak English. A ham came back who spoke 97% English, so I quickly explained the problem and lifted the set and mike out to the boys in blue. They stood back as if it was a bomb so I told the German to tell them what was going on quickly as I felt our luck was about to run out. With people, car horns and floats being held up a track was finally cleared, and we moved down a side street, with our DL ham guiding us to our hotel, which was about 9 kilometres. I told him to thank the police for their trouble, which he said he had. They said for us to keep out when they next hold their festivals.

We travelled back to the hotel with his assistance of the 2 mtrs.

I wonder what would have happened if that DL ham had not been listening. With all the fuss that day I did not remember his call sign, if we had given any.

It is an offence to operate HF radio in a vehicle in Italy, 2 mtrs or CB are OK. This is maybe because of the way they drive and the speed limit of 140km. We drove at 125km and anything with wheels on left us for dead. I heard on radio that on weekend of 17 July'88, 97 were killed on Italy freeways and the speed has now been dropped back to 120km. We never saw an accident all the time we drove over there. One morning, between Austria and Switzland the freeway came to a sudden stop, and we waited 4 hours in a traffic jam. The freeway was blocked for 35 kilometres, 4 lanes both ways. We were later told a semi had lost it's rear wheels and they came across the freeway, nitting traffic on opposite side, wrecking dozens of vehicles and killing quite a few.

VK3VEJ (Charlie)

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DX INFORMATION - (As received per packet radio from ARRL HQ).

Papua New guinea - P29KH has a new antenna and is active on 14190khz at 1100z. QSL to P.O. Box997 Madang, Papua New Guinea.

Crete - George SV9AKD is very active on 15 metres SSB around 2100Z. QSL info is P.O. Box 1224, Iraklion, Crete.

Equatorial Guinea - 3C1JPF is active around 2000Z on 21250khz. QSL via ON7GV.

Togo - 5V7tm is active on 21235khz around 1900Z.

Central Kiribati - It is reported that Jim Smith will be operating from T31 starting on July 1.

Yemen - The 4W operation has met with several delays. There have been several operators on CW, but contacts have been few. The latest rumor is that the full effort will start from 27th June.

Galapagos. The planned June 25 HC8 operation has been scrubbed. Rescheduling info will follow.

DXCC Desk. Documentation for the recent Abu Ail dxpediton, A15AA, AB and AC, has been received. DXCC credit for this operation will begin with those applications received on and after May 1, 1988. Documentation has also been received from the Benin dxpediton, TYOLC. DXCC credit will be given when confirmations are received.

Albania - A station signing ZA88RA has been on the past begining about 0200Z on 14050khz, listening from 14060 to 14085khz. He has stated his name is Ramiz, and his QTH is Tirana. QSL info is given as P.O. Box 1. No other information is known about this station.

Qatar - A71BJ has been active but will soon go QRT. His home call, G4HOU, is incorrectly listed in the 88 callbook. The correct address for QSLs is 78 Allington Road, Tad Dockwood, Kent, England, TN126AN.

Marianas - JG1RVN is hoping to return in September or October.

Solomon Islands - H44X is now active on all bands as a commemorative station in honour of the 10th anniversary of their independance. QSL via H44S.

CLARRY VK3DMK.

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 177.03 FROM WA2LQQ
WARWICK, NY June 25, 1988
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

AMSAT's team of ground controllers has begun precise ranging of AO-13 in order to determine its new orbit after the first kick motor burn accomplished last Wednesday. The result is a set of successively more accurate orbital element sets. The data has proved sufficiently accurate to be adopted by official government satellite tracking agencies.

AMSAT's orbital determination process begins with range measurements from various command stations using round trip delay time measurements from the earth to the satellite and back. Stations making such measurements at present include KA9Q, DJ4ZC, DB2OS, ZL1AOX and VK5AGR.

Once the range data is acquired, a complex number-crunching process begins. A Keplerian element set results which is then checked for "fit" with other tracking data and with AOS/LOS observation reports.

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Here is a recent product of this process:

Satellite: oscar-13
 Catalog number: 19216
 Epoch time: 88176.00000000
 Fri Jun 24 00:00:00.0 1988 UTC
 Element set: ka9q-3
 Inclination: 14.4344 deg
 RA of node: 242.9507 deg
 Eccentricity: 0.7012359
 Arg of perigee: 183.8892 deg
 Mean anomaly: 57.3505 deg
 Mean motion: 2.20055906 rev/day
 Decay rate: 0 rev/day/day
 Epoch rev: 19
 Semi major axis: 24972.204 km
 Anom period: 654.379166 min
 Apogee: 36105.470 km
 Perigee: 1082.659 km

VK3DFI - LOU
 (VIA VK3DMK - CLARRY)
 30-6-88

FOR MOBILE OPERATORS

If you have Amateur Equipment in your car be very careful as to how you handle your insurance. After an incident in which one of my sons was involved and found his car (the middle of a sandwich) written off, he tried to recover some expensive audio equipment from the vehicle and was told it belonged to the insurance company.

Wondering how this would apply to an Amateur and his radio gear I fronted the NRMA (my insurers) and was told if my vehicle was written off the radio gear belonged to them. As I was not impressed with this answer I wrote them a letter so that I could at least have the proof of what they had told me in writing.

The last thing most Amateurs want is some clown in a wrecking yard playing Batman and Robin on the transmitting gear that has been left in his vehicle in the event it is a total loss after a smash. I feel that the DOC would also take a rather dim view of this.

After several weeks the Wollongong Office of the NRMA received word from Sydney that provided the equipment was noted on the insurance and the vehicle insured for its full value plus the

value of the equipment the following procedures could take place if the vehicle was ever "written off".

1. I could apply to the claims manager to buy the gear back at a price to be negotiated at the time.

2. If I didn't want the equipment they could sell it to a licenced operator or.

3. They could destroy it. (In the meantime they had contacted DOC and were given the message on unlicensed operators).

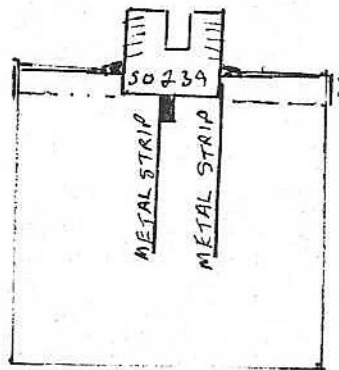
Far be it from me to cause you any falling out with your favourite insurance company but be warned - they have a very unbending set of rules when it comes to what is bolted into an insured vehicle. For your own benefit clarify the situation with them or you could be facing the daunting task of trying to get your gear back and they wont part with it.

Keith VK2OB.

LOW COST RF.DUMMY LOAD.

Materials required;- 2 litre approx.glass jar with screw top lid.
 S0239 chassis mounting socket for PL259 plug.
 2 strips of copper or brass 3"x ½"

Construction;- Drill hole and attache the S0239 socket to centre of lid.
 and solder strips to the socket.
 Fill the jar with tap water and add about ½ teaspoon of
 ordinary table salt.Screw lid back on.
 Run a few watts of RF into the load through an antenna
 impedance meter and adjust the salt and water solution
 to obtain 50 to 70 ohms on the meter.
 The connector and strips should be washed and dried after
 use to prevent corrosion from the salt solution.



Johny was an active Ham,
 His sigs were rough and raw.
 The R.I.got to hear of this
 DIT--DIT--DIT--DOR--DIT--DOR.

Contributed by Stan VK3 SE.



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WESTERN ZONE

OF

VICTORIAN



DIVISION

Reference:

FOUNDED ... 1910
INCORPORATED 1925

SECRETARY TREASURER
K.J. SIMPSON
58 WADE St,
PORTLAND,
VICTORIA,

3305

PHONE 055-233742

MINUTS OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE ZONE HELD ON 25/5/88
HELD AT THE LAKE BOLAC HOTEL AT 1450 hrs.

present ; VK3's KAV, XFC, AIH, TAI, AKW, VSX, NVR, AEU, KZZ, KIT, YLV, DTO, BFF, EME, BTX, XOA, CFH, XEX, CAI
TCE, NBV.

APPOLOGIES WERE RECEIVED FROM : AGD, XEH, VNQ, BV, DLO, DWL, KN, ZGT.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THESE MINUTS ARE UNCONFERMED.

THE DATE FOR THE NEXT MEETING WAS CONFERMED AS 27/8/88. AND A TENTERTIVE DATE OF 26/11/88
WAS PROPOSED FOR THE LAST MEETING FOR THE YEAR.

THE MEETING WAS OPENED BY THE PRESIDENT KEN VK3KAV WITH 20 MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE
THE CORRESPONDANCE WAS READ AND RECEIVED ON THE MOTION OF KIT AND AKW /CARRIED.

*-IN.

*OUT

COPIES OF MINUTS VIC DIV
25/02/88 and 24/ 03/88.

MINUTS OF ZONE MEETINGS AS PE LIST.
LETTER TO VK3AKW. RE INFORMATION REQUESTED.
LETTER TO VIC DIV . RE AGM.

B.A.R.G.

REPLY TO ENQUIRY RE REPETER COSTS.

COPY OF LETTER TO K. GLUYAS.

VIC DIV RE, NOVICE'S ON 2Mtrs.

GENERAL BUISNESS.

MOVED BY BTX AND KZZ "THAT THE SECRETARY WRITE TO THE VIC DIV. SEEKING CLARIFACATION
AS TO THE RESPONSABILATY RE THE COSTS OF REPETERS WITHIN THE ZONE I.E. LICENCE FEE,
POWER, INSURANCE AND MANTANANCE ECT. WE WERE GIVEN TO UNDERSTAND FROM THE VIC DIV. COUNCIL
MEETING OF 24/ 09/87 THAT MEETINGS WOULD BE ARRANGED WITH ZONE REPS, TO DISCUSS THE
CLASIFACATION OF REPETERS IN VICTORIA AND THEREFOR THE FUNDING OF THEM, AND THE MEETINGS
WOULD BE HELD IN EARLY 1988. TO DATE NO SUCH MEETING HAS BEEN ARRANGED WITH THE ZONE."

CARRIED

MOVED CAI AND KZZ " THAT THE SECRETARY SEND COPYS OF REPLY TO REPETER COMMITTEE AND THAT
THE COMMITTEE BE EMPOWERD TO ACT AS NESSASERY PRIOR TO NEXT MEETING.

CARRIED.

BILL VK3AKW ASKED A QUESTION RE THE PROGRESS ON THE 2Mtr. PORTABLE REPETER THAT THE
BALLERAT ARC REQUESTED ASSISTANCE WITH, IN MARCH 1985.

ARISING OUT OF THE DISCUSSION IT WAS MOVED BY CFH AND XEX "THAT THE SECRETARY WRITE TO
B.A.R.G. AND SEEK CLARIFACATION ON THE MATTER."

CARRIED.

MORSHAM ARC. GAVE A PRELIMANARY REPORT ON NEGOTTIATIONS TO INSTALL A23cm REPETER ON
MT WILLIAM TO TEST PROPAGATION ON THIS BAND.

THE SECRETARY REQUESTED, THAT COPYS OF ANY CORRESPONDANCE BE SENT TO THE ZONE FOR
INFORMATION.

OLIVER VK3AEU ASKED A QUESTION RE THE PACKET REPETER. ROB VK3CAI RESPONDED.

THERE WAS A DISCUSSION RE THE CONTINUATION OF BOTH 80Mtr. AND 2Mtr. NETS ON MONDAY NIGHTS
AFTER THE FIRST JUNE WHEN NOVICE LICENCE HOLDERS ARE ABLE TO OPPERATE ON 2Mtrs.
IT WAS RESOLVED THAT BOTH NETS BE CONTINUED AND THAT THE USE OF 80mts. BE REVIEWED AS NESSASERY
AT OUR NORMAL QUATERLY MEETINGS.

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NICAD RECHARGING

The following snippet of information was received on 'Packet', and passed on for interest.

From AX4TTY - QARDATA Inc.

When you first purchased a ni-cad battery you found that you could get plenty of usages from it before it needed recharging, but now you find you have to recharge the ni-cad more often. Its capacity has deteriorated. (There has been many similar articles, this may be another to add to the pile !).

Here is a method for "Zapping" that battery.

If you purchase an electrolytic capacitor with the rating of 35 volts at 4700uf and extend the positive lead of the capacitor with a piece of wire long enough to reach across the automobile 12 volt battery, you will be able to charge up the capacitor with a 12 volt charge, making sure the positive side of the capacitor is connected to the positive side of the battery. (Make sure the car engine is not running when you charge the capacitor). Once the capacitor has been fully charged, then connect the positive lead of the capacitor to the positive lead of the ni-cad battery and likewise with the negative leads.

At this point a small spark will be observed and that will indicate that the ni-cad battery has been "Zapped".

What happened when it got that zap? The action of that capacitor discharging across the ni-cad drove the positive pole from the negative pole to allow a maximum potential difference between the two poles to occur. In actual fact, the battery has been returned to almost new condition at this point and the purchase of a new ni-cad battery has been postponed for the time being.

This works for all voltages of ni-cad batteries that are rated less than 12 volts. If for some reason you have a battery-pack of ni-cads that exceed 12 volts, then "zapping" each battery within the pack will accomplish the same as though you had 'zapped' the entire pack, so long as the voltage does not exceed 12 volts.

Hopefully, this idea will spare you the expense of purchasing a new ni-cad battery for your appliance, and at the same time give you a few more months of use out of that ni-cad.

Clarry - VK3DMK

P.S.

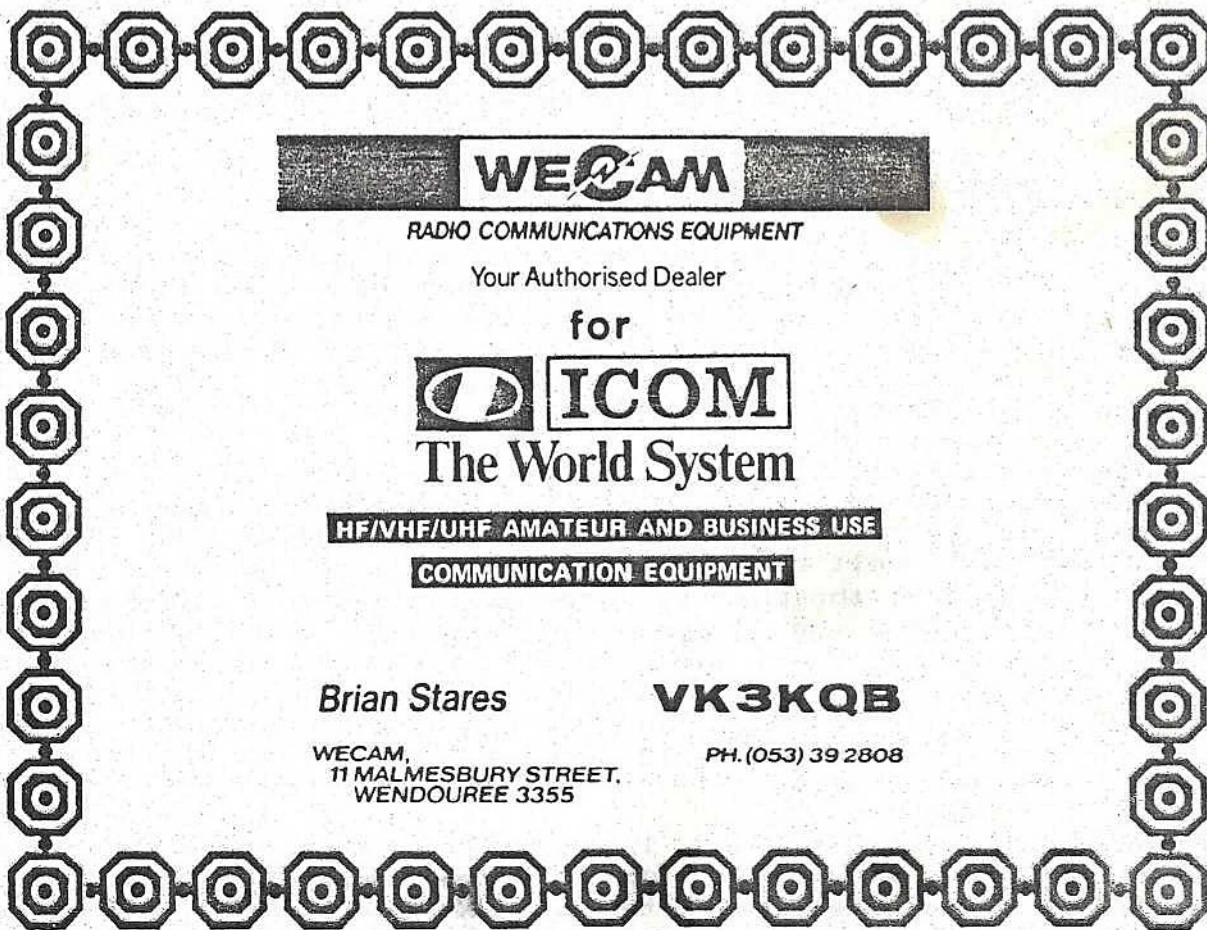
Remember that 'can-tenna' that Bob VK3BNC published in the magazine about 12 months ago?. Currently using that antenna (sitting on top of refrigerator) to work packet and channel 7 no worries!"!...

FOR SALE , WANTED ETC.

Mobile Cradle for IC22S

VK3VEJ

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WECAM
RADIO COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT
Your Authorised Dealer
for
 **ICOM**
The World System
HF/VHF/UHF AMATEUR AND BUSINESS USE
COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT

Brian Stares **VK3KQB**
WECAM,
11 MALMESBURY STREET,
WENDOUREE 3355 PH. (053) 39 2808



★ ★
THE SPOTLIGHT IS ON!
★ ★

Venture Video

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